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Sep 5th 2018

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

As a networking expert who has worked on building Internet infrastructure for over 20 years and has worked with the Internet since 1985, I can tell you that the Internet is what it is today in spite of incumbent carriers like AT&T, Verizon, and Comcast. I can not count the number of times that these major corporations have actively tried to kill the basic ideas that allowed the Internet to grow to what it is today.

Sometimes it was stating technical opinions as absolute truths that were proven wrong (often before they were even presented.) Sometimes it was in creating Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt (FUD) that the Internet would fail in various ways over the last 30+ years. Other times it is like this effort, a simple political pressure job to protect their profits.

Who are they protecting their profits against? Those who would innovate and move the Internet forward. Their goal is to maintain their profits at the cost of fair competition, new and better services and anything else that would change the world of communications. This has been their model since I first encountered them in 1985 and it will likely not change in the future.

There are many claims that these people can innovate if they are free of restraints. A 30-year track record says exactly the opposite. They will only innovate when they have no choice but to compete with those who want things to change.

Only the FCC stands in the way of these major carriers pushing smaller, more innovative companies and universities out of the way so they can stop putting in the effort to innovate. Anything you see on the Internet now came not from these major carriers but from the people that this decision would threaten.

Sincerely,

Jerry Scharf